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Prospectus 2024

Principal's Welcome

Welcome to Mildenhall College Academy and especially **MCA^6**, our dedicated sixth form centre. You will see from this prospectus and our website the excellent facilities and range of subjects we have to offer. We are really excited that the 'Mildenhall Hub' which has the Academy and the Sixth Form at the heart of it, is now fully open. Sixth Form students now have access to state-of-the-art sports facilities including; an Olympic swimming pool, all weather pitches, over 170-piece gym, modern library and health facilities. Not only does this offer access to facilities for lesson and personal use but also for work experiences across a range of industries and professions.

Every young person deserves an excellent education and to go to a Sixth Form provision that understands them, allows them to thrive and be happy, and helps them to achieve academic success whatever their ability or circumstances. I firmly believe that this is achieved through inspiring teaching, a safe and caring environment, expert advice and guidance, and a wide range of high-quality enrichment opportunities. My aim is for all students in our sixth form to develop their knowledge, talents, and values so that they can be successful and make a positive contribution to their community.

Miss N Hood
Principal

Miss N Hood
Principal

MCA^6

Mildenhall College Academy Sixth Form

At Mildenhall College Academy our aims are for every student to:
Achieve academic excellence
Be the best they can be
Contribute positively to the community

We seek to do this through our **MCA TRAITS** and also our core principle of Work hard; be kind.

In addition to subject specific lessons at **MCA^6** students will also benefit from a strong personal development programme with a tutor, skills for life sessions, assemblies, visitors and trip and enrichment opportunities.

Enrichment is an important part of sixth form life and all students led by the prefects help to shape the trips, visits, clubs and activities which take place. This will include work experience, community action and the mid-summer ball the social highlight of the academic year!

We look forward to welcoming you to **MCA^6**.

Countdown to Sixth Form

- **MCA⁶** Information Evening
  Tuesday 28th October 2023
- Students select subjects to experience at the Taster Day
- **MCA⁶** Taster Day
  December 2023
- Guidance Meeting.
  An opportunity for students to discuss their choice of subjects and Post-16 options. January and February 2024
- Formal offer letters sent to students
  January 2024
- The **MCA⁶** Induction Event
  Thursday 4th and Friday 5th July 2024
- GCSE Results Day
  22nd August 2024
- The **MCA⁶** Enrolment Days
  22nd August 2024 9.30am-1pm

Enrichment Opportunities

All **MCA⁶** students have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of enrichment opportunities, including:

- Visits to Universities
- Work Experience
- Sports Leadership
- Prefect Team
- Mindfulness Club
- Film Club
- Peer Mentoring
- International Visits
- Sports Teams
- Cultural Visits

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Red 'A level' Pathway Level 3 Requiring four '5' grades and above at GCSE in different subjects (Red and Blue pathway subjects may be taken together)	10	**Biology**	30	**Politics**
	12	**Chemistry**	31	**Psychology**
	13	**Computer Science**	32	**Sociology**
	14	**Core Maths**	33	**Spanish**
	16	**DT Product Design**		
	17	**English Literature**		
	20	**French**	18	**Extended Project Qualification**
	21	**Further Mathematics**		
	22	**Geography**		
	24	**History**		
	25	**Mathematics**		
	26	**Media Studies**		
	27	**Music**		
	29	**Physics**		
Blue 'Applied' Pathway Level 3 Requiring five '4' grades and above at GCSE in different subjects	8	**Applied Science**		Re-sit courses in GCSE English and Maths are compulsory for students who have not achieved grade 4 or above.
	9	**Art and Design**		
	11	**Business Studies**		
	15	**Criminology**		
	19	**Food Science & Nutrition**		
	23	**Health and Social Care**		
	28	**Performing Arts**		
	34	**Sports Studies**		

For those students who have enjoyed Science at GCSE this course allows a more in depth look at topics across the three Science disciplines.

In the first year, students will develop their practical skills in a wide range of experimental work. They will analyse and evaluate their own progress in that practical work through a series of assignments.

Students will learn about key concepts in Biology, Chemistry and Physics through theory based lessons for the examination element.

In the second year students will further develop their practical skills as well as completing another assignment based unit.

The course is based on up-to-date content and allows learners to develop the knowledge, understanding, skills and attributes required in the sector.

Qualification:
BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Applied Science

Assessment: 2 internally assessed and externally moderated units. One externally set examined unit and one practical based externally set task.

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment in science, healthcare or laboratory based work.

Web Link: https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/applied-science-2016.html

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact:
Mrs Wetton

Art and Design

Students are given a design brief which involves solving a problem, producing a body of work for an exhibition or a piece for a client. Our Art and Design programme enables students to specialise in Photography, Fashion or Fine Art or work across the mediums.

Students are encouraged to experiment with a wide range of materials, techniques and processes to develop their own skills. The process when working towards a final piece involves: researching artists, researching how communication and meanings behind the work of others is the driving force for artists and designers, gathering primary research through photography and educational visits, producing work that is inspired by their research and experimenting with materials and techniques including printmaking, painting, ceramics and sculpture. Students are shown various methods of manufacture and will produce final pieces that fulfil the design brief. Students' work is then exhibited in the Sixth Form exhibition.

The Art Suite offers personal study booths where students can work in their own time. The programme is coursework based with externally set controlled assessments. Students will complete a variety of mandatory units, exam units plus specialist units in the student's personal area of study.

Course Requirements: Students are required to purchase their own sketchbook, an A1 and A2 portfolio, basic equipment such as pencils, rubbers and rulers and any specialist materials students may require for their own work. The academy provides: paper, paints, printmaking materials, clay etc.

Qualification:
BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate = 1 A level, National Diploma = 2 A Levels

Assessment:
Extended Certificate = 50% coursework 50% Exam
National Diploma = 62.5% coursework 37.5% Exam

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment in art, design or the creative industries.

Web Link: http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/art-and-design-2016.html#tab-1

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact:
Miss Moles-Smith

Biology

For those students who have enjoyed Biology at GCSE this course allows a more in depth look across a range of topics.

In the first year, students will study topics which will build on GCSE knowledge. These include biological molecules, cells, organisms exchange mechanisms and genes. In the second year topics will include energy transfers, organisms responses, genetics and populations and control of gene expression.

Throughout the course students will develop their practical skills and will be assessed on this on a regular basis. The practical work will enhance their understanding of key concepts covered within the theory lessons.

Studying Biology can help prepare you for a range of careers in Science and Research. Biologists work over a range of different disciplines that explore the make-up of living things.

Qualification:
A Level

Assessment: 3 examinations at the end of Year 13. Assessment of practical skills throughout the course.

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment in science, healthcare or laboratory based work.

Web Link: http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/as-and-a-level/biology-7401-7402/specification-at-a-glance

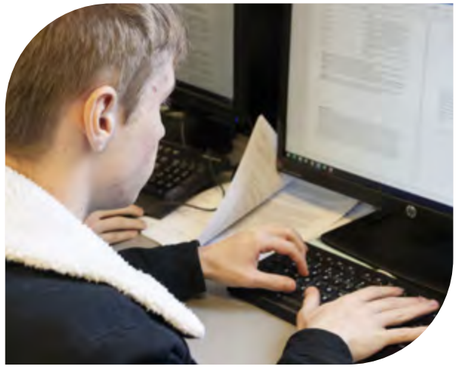
For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact:
Mrs Wetton

Business Studies

The focus of the Business Studies course is to develop a foundation of skills, knowledge and understanding required for the 21st century. The course covers a wide range of topics. A variety of assessment techniques will be used including written examinations, presentations, role plays and coursework assignments.

Students will learn by applying their skills, knowledge and understanding to tasks and activities that are relevant in business. Key skill development will be in communication, team work, planning and organisation. Work experience is offered to all Year 12 students so students can apply their skills and knowledge in a contextual setting.

Cambridge Technicals are designed to help students to prepare to meet the expectations of employers and develop entrepreneurial skills. Level 3 students may progress to study a range of courses at university or enter their chosen career. Options include banking, administration, retail, IT, marketing, human resources, law or management.



Qualification:
Cambridge Technical Level 3 (2016 suite) Extended Certificate in Business
Cambridge Technical Level 3 (2016 suite) Diploma in Business

Assessment: External and Internal assessment.

- Extended Certificate in Business: 2 external examinations
- Diploma in Business: 4 external examinations and 6 coursework units

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment in the business sector.

Web Link: https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/cambridge-technicals/business/#level-3

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact: Mrs Wilmshurst

Chemistry

Why Study Chemistry? The answer is simple - Chemistry underpins everything in our modern life-style. For example it is Chemistry that enables us to convert crude oil into petrol, plastics and fibres. Chemistry invented Nylon, Terylene and Lycra. It makes vital medicines, creates fertilisers, purifies water and monitors our seas and atmosphere for pollutants.

The range of careers available to someone with a Chemistry qualification is greater than with most other qualifications. The chemical and pharmaceutical industries are two of the largest employers in the manufacturing industries. Chemists are also employed in related areas such as Biotechnology and Electronics.

Chemistry, can lead to many other disciplines; many employers recognise the value of skills developed in this subject, such as logical thought, numerical and communication skills and the general education that a Chemistry course provides.

Qualification:
AQA A level Chemistry

Assessment: Assessment of practical skills throughout the course. 3 written examinations at the end of Year 13.

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment in science, medicine, veterinary, healthcare or laboratory based work.

Web Link: www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/as-and-a-level/chemistry-7404-7405

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact: Mrs Wetton

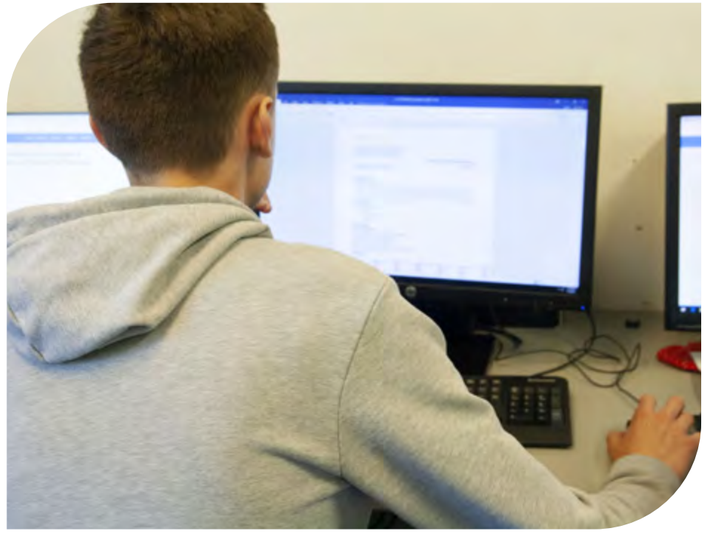
Computer Science

The Computer Science course is designed to give you a secure understanding of how computers work and to further develop your problem-solving skills. Whilst studying this course you will develop your ability to think logically, abstractly and procedurally. You will further your understanding of how computers affect society and you will start to gain an understanding of how computers use Boolean logic.

This course links closely with Mathematics so students should have robust Mathematical skills or be studying A-Level Mathematics.

The course is broken down into three sections. Component 1 looks at the hardware, software and other computing fundamentals. Component 2 looks at students understanding of algorithms and Component 3 is a programming project to solve a real world problem.

You do not need to have studied Computer Science at GCSE but should have a good understanding of Mathematics and Science.



Qualification:
OCR A Level

Assessment: 2 External examinations and programming project.

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment in computer science, IT or related industries.

Web Link: https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-and-a-level/computer-science-h046-h446-from-2015/

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact:
Mr Sexton

Core Maths

Core maths was introduced by the government in 2014 to allow students further opportunity to study maths beyond GCSE. The qualification runs for two years and is equivalent to an AS level. An increasing number of good universities are recognising the value of core maths and are reducing their entry requirements to holders of the qualification as a result.

The focus of the course is on the application of maths to a variety of contexts, using mathematical skills to solve real problems. It is context driven, with the maths being applied to match the situation, rather than other way round. The contexts cover a wide range of areas, including social media, engineering, art, finance and sport. As well as enhancing mathematical skills, there is an emphasis on using technology to analyse and present information.

The course will especially suit those who are undertaking further study in areas which involve some maths, such as geography, psychology and biology. There are two exams at the end of year 13. The comprehension paper involves analysis of a source booklet published around 6 weeks before the exam. There are 60 marks available here. The application paper is worth 80 marks, and involves the analysis of another booklet, seen for the first time in the exam. Both exams are 90 minutes long.

Qualification:
AS level 3 Core Maths Edexcel

Assessment: 100% examination at end of Year 13
Paper 1: Comprehension - pre-released material (approximately 40%; 1 hour 40 minutes)
Paper 2: Application - unseen material (approximately 60%; 1 hour 40 minutes)

Progression Route: Numerous university, apprenticeship or employment routes.

Web Link: https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-mathematics-in-context/mathematics-in-context.html

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact:
Mrs Robinson

Criminology

Criminology is the scientific study of the nature, extent, management, causes, control, consequences and prevention of criminal behaviour, both on individual and social levels. Criminology is an interdisciplinary field in both the behavioural and social sciences, drawing especially upon the research of Sociologists, Psychologists and Philosophers. This is an exciting course which allows students to gain a wealth of new knowledge linked to the criminal justice system and theories and concepts relating to the cause of crime. Students will have the opportunity to acquire both practical and academic skills through applied learning such as crime scene analysis. There is also practical input from visiting practitioners in the criminal justice sector. Units studied over the two years are:

Unit 1: Changing awareness of crime
Unit 2: Criminological theories
Unit 3: Crime scene to courtroom
Unit 4: Crime and punishment

The course will equip students with a range of transferable skills such as research, independent working, time management and problem solving. Students will also develop their skills of analysis, evaluation and application of knowledge.

Qualification:
WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Criminology.
CBAC

Assessment: 4 Units over two years.

- Units 1 and 3 are assessed through controlled assessment, internally assessed and externally moderated.
- Units 2 and 4 are assessed through external exams.

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment in a range of areas including criminology, the social sciences and law.

Web Link: http://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/criminology/

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact: Mr Smith

DT Product Design

This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers especially those in the creative industries. You will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put your learning into practice by producing prototypes of your choice.

Students will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, as well as acquiring the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers.

Qualification:
AQA A Level

Assessment: Two examinations worth 50% and 50% coursework.

Paper 1:
- Written exam: 2.5 hours
- 120 marks
- 30% of A-level

Paper 2
- Written exam: 1.5 hours
- 80 marks
- 20% of A-level

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment in design or the creative industries.

Web Link: http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/design-and-technology

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact:
Mr Daniels

English Literature

English Literature is an opportunity to read widely and participate in class discussions and debates as well as writing essays. In Year 12 we will study 'Love through the Ages' where the set texts are Shakespeare's Othello, Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby and a collection of Love Poetry that allows you to consider a range of approaches and poetic forms taken towards the topic of love. In Year 13 we shall focus on Literature post 1945 and consider the social, political and stylistic influences on Literature in recent years. The set texts will be Atwood's The Handmaid's Tale, Williams' A Streetcar named Desire and Carol Ann Duffy's The Feminine Gospels.

In addition, there will be coursework where you will have a free choice of topic that involves analysing 2 texts by 2 different authors – at least 1 of the texts must be written before 1900. The essay should be 2500 words and you should also consider other writers' ideas on your chosen topic.

Qualification:
AQA A Level English Literature Syllabus A

Assessment: Two written exams: Paper is partially open book (2 out of 3 texts) with an unseen. Paper 2 is open book for all 3 texts with another unseen. Both papers are worth 40% with coursework 20%.

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship and employment in a range of areas including English, Humanities and law.

Web Link: https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/as-and-a-level/english-literature-a-7711-7712

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact: Miss Roe

Extended Project Qualification

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) allows students to select an area of personal interest and complete an investigation into that subject.

Completing the EPQ develops organisational, project management and independent learning skills which will be of considerable benefit to students as they progress through their Sixth Form studies.

The Extended Project Qualification is worth half an A Level in terms of UCAS points but whether you are considering university or employment the Extended Project Qualification will help you to stand out from the other applicants, particularly if you choose a topic which compliments your plans for the future.

Qualification: EPQ AQA

Assessment: 100% coursework

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment in any sector.

Web Link: https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/projects/project-qualifications/EPQ-7993

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact:
Mrs Wetton

Food Science and Nutrition

If you enjoy food, fitness and science this is a course which is sought after by employers and universities. The University of Reading states, "We want to recruit good scientists with a keen interest in food or nutrition science". The Food Science and Nutrition course enables students to develop their understanding of nutrition and the science behind food.

While studying this course you will learn about nutrition and it's uptake by the body, how exercise and fitness influence the body's ability to function and last but not least organisation and timing. You will learn about a wide range of cooking techniques culminating in a three course meal cooked by you.

Qualification:
Food Science and Nutrition level 3 Diploma
Welsh board

Assessment: Written exam 90 minutes 50%
Coursework 50%
Two coursework units
One practical investigation
One practical exam (3 course meal)

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment in food science, nutrition, science or healthcare.

Web Link: http://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/food-science-and-nutrition/food-science-and-nutrition-level-3-from-2015.html

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact:
Mrs Peacock

French

A Level French: You will gain a lasting appreciation of the language and will learn how to communicate in French to a number of different audiences. The A Level course gives you the opportunity to gain an insight into French speaking cultures, from modern everyday life to important aspects of French history.

- To develop an interest and enthusiasm for French language learning
- To communicate confidently, clearly and effectively in French for a range of purposes
- To develop awareness and understanding of the contemporary society, cultural background and Heritage of countries or communities where French is spoken

Year 12	Year 13
Aspects of French Speaking Society: Current Trends: The changing nature of family The 'cyber society' The Place of Voluntary Work	**Positive features of a diverse society:** Mixed society Integration Capital Punishment
Artistic Culture in the French Speaking World: A culture proud of its heritage Contemporary francophone music Cinema: the 7th art form	**Aspects of political life in the French Speaking world:** Teenagers, the right to vote and political commitment Demonstrations, strikes - who holds the power? Politics and immigration
The study of a French film.	**The study of a French book.**
Grammar and Translation Skills	**Grammar and Translation Skills**
Individual Research Project: The AS exam students will start working on an individual research project which will be assessed at A2	**Individual Research Project:** After the AS exam students will start working on an individual research project which will be assessed at A2

Year 12: Students will develop their grammatical knowledge from GCSE and will be encouraged to think and talk in greater depth about aspects of the society in the wider French speaking world. Students will be expected to keep up to date with current affairs relating to their chosen language in order to broaden their understanding and appreciation of the course. Students are encouraged to visit a country where their target language is spoken during year 12 either on a work experience or on a language study placement if and when possible.
Year 13 French: The second year of the course builds on the skills acquired in Year 12. Topics increase in breadth and depth, to include such areas as social issues (immigration, racism and integration). The focus is very much on the Francophone world and its context in society. Many themes are current and topical, including politics of today's youth, unemployment as well as the historical study of the politics, such as its monarchies, dictatorships etc. Students prepare for the challenge of writing at greater length, e.g. articles and essays.

Qualification:
A Level, AQA

Assessment: 70% Written Exam, 30% Speaking Exam

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment in any sector.

Web Link: https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/as-and-a-level/french-7652

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact:
Miss Szuszman

Further Mathematics

If you really enjoy Mathematics or you wish to study a Mathematics, Physics or Engineering course at university then you should consider studying Further Mathematics. You will need a grade 7 or above in GCSE Mathematics and must be willing to spend much of your spare time studying this subject.

Further Mathematics must be combined with an A Level in Mathematics as it builds and extends the knowledge learnt in the single Maths A-Level.

The rewards for passing this course are great as the subject is highly regarded by universities. It shows that students can possess excellent problem solving skills and are well organised in their own learning and development as a mathematician.

Further Mathematics should not be chosen lightly as it is a very challenging and difficult course.

Qualification:
A Level OCR B (MEI)

Assessment:
100% exam at the end of the 2 year course:
- Core Pure 50% (2hr 40mins)
- Modelling with Algorithms 16 2/3% (1 hr 15 mins)
- Statistics minor 16 2/3% (1hr 15mins)
- Numerical Methods 16 2/3% (1hr 15mins)

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment in maths, engineering or the sciences.

Web Link: https://ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-and-a-level/further-mathematics-b-mei-h635-h645-from-2017

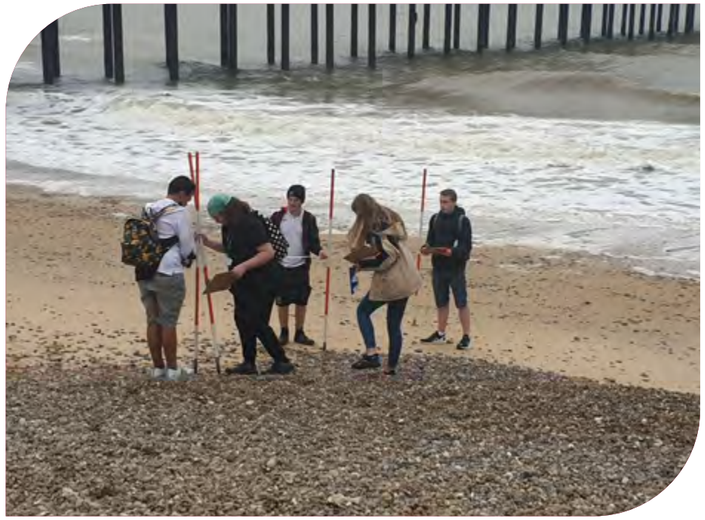
For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact: Mrs Smith

Geography

There has never been a better or more important time to study A-level Geography. Learning about vital global issues makes it one of the most relevant subjects you could choose to study. Students enjoy the scope of the material they cover in Geography, the insights it can provide into the world around us and the highly contemporary nature of the issues it tackles. The Geography A-level is designed to excite your mind, challenge perceptions and stimulate your investigative and analytical skills.

To study A Level Geography, you need to have an enquiring and open mind. Geography is a study of the world around us and you need to be aware of issues worldwide, not just in the UK. You need to be able to debate issues and to think about them from political and social perspectives as well. Your opinion is important, but you also need to think about debates from someone else's perspective. Reading newspapers and articles to keep your subject knowledge up to date is vital.

A basic grasp of maths is required and the ability to interpret graphs and analyse them is fundamental, along with basic maps skills. You will learn specific case studies in depth and you will develop the skill of writing longer answers clearly and succinctly. Importantly, studying A-level Geography equips you with vital transferable skills that could open paths to many undergraduate degrees and careers.



Qualification:
AQA Geography A level

Assessment:
Component 1: Physical geography (40%; Examination at the end of Year 13)

Students will study the Water and carbon cycles, Coastal systems and landscapes and Ecosystems under stress.

Component 2: Human geography (40%; Examination at the end of Year 13)

Students will study Global systems and global governance, Changing places and Contemporary urban environments.

Component 3: Geography fieldwork investigation (20%; 3,000 – 4,000-word coursework)

Students complete an individual investigation which must include data collected in the field. The individual investigation must be based on a question or issue defined and developed by the student relating to any part of the specification content.

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship and employment in a wide range of sectors.

Web Link: https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/as-and-a-level/geography-7037

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact: Mrs Billson

Health and Social Care

The focus of the Health and Social Care course is to develop a foundation of skills and knowledge which can be used within a variety of care settings. The course covers a wide range of topics. A range of assessment techniques will be used including written examinations, projects, practical work, role plays and coursework assignments.

Students who choose this course develop many transferable skills and an understanding of a variety of care settings, job roles and the values of health and social care.

The course is divided into units which focus on general aspects of health and social care, sexual health, reproduction and early development stages and supporting people with learning difficulties.

The Health and Social Care sector offers a wide selection of career choices in a growing job market. Progression includes employment or further specialist training. Equally, students holding the Level 3 qualification will be prepared to enter university for a variety of degree courses such as nursing, paramedic science, occupational therapy and social work.

Qualification:
Cambridge Technical Level 3 (2016 suite) Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care (1 A Level)

Cambridge Technical Level 3 (2016 suite) Diploma in Health and Social Care (2 A Levels)

Assessment: External and Internal assessment.

Extended Certificate in Health and social Care: 3 external examinations and 3 coursework units

Diploma in Health and Social Care: 5 external examinations and 7 coursework units

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment in nursing and other allied health professions, social work, healthcare and childcare.

Web Link: https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/cambridge-technicals/health-and-social-care

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact:
Ms Waddilove

History is about people, their ambitions, successes and failures. It is about trying to understand why people acted in a certain way and why some events can change the direction of a nation, or even an entire continent. The A level course at **MCA[6]** enables students to study the history of more than one country or state, as well as the study of British History. In addition to this, students will undertake a thematic study, which covers an extended period of history of approximately 100 years; and the coursework element enables students to explore an area of a topic that they are particularly interested in. Through the study of History, we aim to captivate learners and develop a desire within them to continue learning beyond the confines of the classroom.

Studying for a History A level qualification at **MCA[6]** provides a fantastic opportunity to ignite and engage passions and interests in the pursuit of understanding more about the past. Through a varied range of teaching and learning activities delivered by subject specialists with particular expertise in the periods being taught, students will develop their skills of interpretation, analysis and evaluation. The course is designed to foster the development of intelligent and reflective thinking with an understanding of historical topics and issues; and to encourage an awareness of the importance of historical awareness in explaining contemporary issues. This course will help to create independent learners, critical thinkers and decision-makers – all personal assets that can make students stand out as they progress to Higher Education and/or the workplace. Students who take History have access to a range of careers including law, civil service, journalism and teaching.

Qualification:
OCR History A level

Assessment: Unit 1 (25% examination at the end of Year 13) - British Period Study: Britain 1930-1997 - Enquiry Topic: Churchill 1930-1951

Unit 2 (15%; Examination at the end of Year 13) - Non-British Period Study: The Cold War in Europe 1945-1991

Unit 3 (40%; Examination at the end of Year 13) - Thematic Study and Historical Interpretations: Popular Culture and the Witch Craze of the 16th and 17th Centuries

Unit 4 (20%; Coursework) - Topic-based Essay: The Causes of the First World War

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment in range of areas including History, the social sciences and law.

Web Link: http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-history-a-h105-h505-from-2015/

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact:
Mrs Betts

Mathematics

The study of Mathematics involves careful reasoning which can be applied to many aspects of life, including voting trends, financial stability and climate change.

Mathematics 'A' level is a valuable qualification for most careers and university courses. The list of such courses or careers would be endless but would certainly include the following:

Mathematics, Engineering, Physics, Computing, Accountancy, Economics, Business, Banking, Air Traffic Control, Retail Management, Architecture, Surveying, Cartography, Psychology and, of course, Teaching.

A Level Mathematics B (MEI) is a linear qualification. The content is listed below, under three areas:

1. Pure mathematics includes proof, algebra, graphs, sequences, trigonometry, logarithms, calculus and vectors
2. Mechanics includes kinematics, motion under gravity, working with forces including friction, Newton's laws and simple moments.
3. Statistics includes working with data from a sample to make inferences about a population, probability calculations, using binomial and normal distributions as models and statistical hypothesis testing.

To study Mathematics is an exciting and challenging experience and you will need to be resilient and prepared to work hard. You will need a grade 6 or above at GCSE Mathematics to study A-Level Mathematics.

Qualification:
A Level OCR B (MEI)

Assessment:
100% Exams at the end of the 2 year course:
- Paper 1: Pure and mechanics - $33^{1}/_{3}$%
- Paper 2: Pure and statistics - $33^{1}/_{3}$%
- Paper 3: Pure and comprehension - $33^{1}/_{3}$%

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment in maths, engineering or the sciences.

Web Link: http://ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-mathematics-b-mei-h630-h640-from-2017/

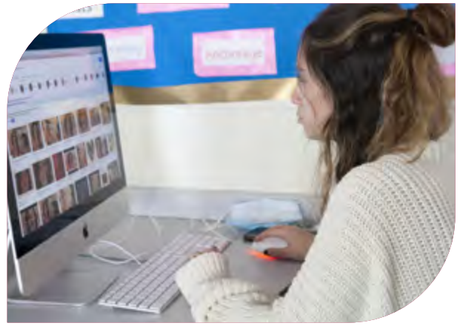
For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact: Mrs Smith

Media Studies

Media Studies offers students the chance to investigate the media and its place in the modern world. It combines academic rigour and creativity.

Students will be asked to view the media through a theoretical framework. They will need to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the contexts of media and the influence of them on media products and processes. For example, students would be asked to consider the role of changing ideas about representations and identity in society and the impact that has on the media. Students will also need to analyse media texts including websites, TV and social media. They will analyse and compare how media products construct and communicate meanings through the interaction of media language and audience response. Furthermore, students will be required to debate key questions relating to the social, cultural, political and economic role of the media through discursive writing. The course will also require students to create media products for a specific audience.

The course offers students the opportunity to learn how to use media technology and then to utilise these skills when they create their own media products.



Qualification:
A Level OCR

Assessment: 70 % Exam, 30 % NEA
- Paper 1: Section A – in depth study of News (newspapers and websites)
  Section B – Media Language and Representation in Advertising, Magazines and Music video
- Paper 2: Section A – Media Industries and Audiences – Radio, Video Games and Film
  Section B – In depth study of Long Form TV Drama
- NEA: Students make a cross-media production of two different media products that is aimed at an intended audience. This will be accompanied by a Statement of Intent.

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment in media, film or the creative industries.

Web Link: https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-and-a-level/media-studies-h009-h409-from-2017

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact: Mr Fahy

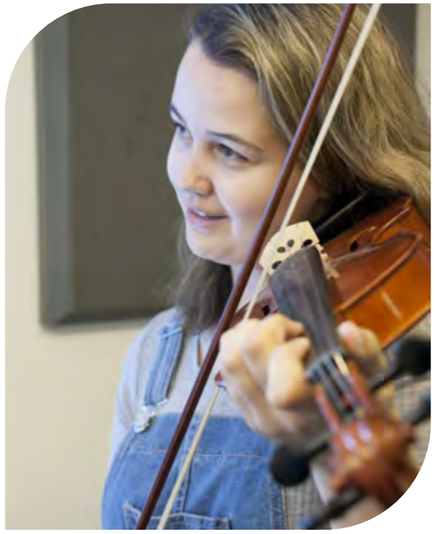
Music

Music is for anyone who would like to extend their musical skills in performing, composing and appraising.

The course allows for study of the widest possible range of music including folk, popular, classical and non-western styles. It aims to foster creativity through performing, composing and appraising and participate in making and communicating through music.

Students wishing to study Music need to be able to play an instrument or sing and have GCSE Music at Grade 6 or above.

Students with A level Music have a variety of options, including higher education. Careers where musical skills are respected include PR, sound engineering, media and entertainment industries, teaching and composing.



Qualification:
A Level EDUQAS

Assessment: Performing 35% (exam)
Composing 25% (coursework)
Listening and Appraising 40% (exam)

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment in music or the creative industries.

Web Link: https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/music-as-a-level/#tab_keydocuments

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact: Mrs Sayer

Performing Arts

Studying BTEC Performing Arts will enable you to develop your passion for performing alongside developing vital life skills including your confidence and creativity. If you are either looking to continue into the arts as a career choice, or whether you enjoy performing in front of an audience there will be many opportunities offered to you through this course.

There are four units to complete over the two-year course, assessed through theoretical knowledge as well as through practical performance skills. Students will be expected to work to a brief with deadlines, to mirror what it is like working in the Performance Arts industry. The units studied will focus on developing students' acting skills as well as their understanding of theatre practitioners. Students will participate in teacher-led workshops as well as experiencing workshops led by professional theatre practitioners.

Students are expected to perform in multiple academy shows throughout the course and it is expected that they will attend additional rehearsals to prepare for performances as well as trips to live theatre performances.

Qualification:
Pearson BTEC National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts

Dance Assessment: 4 units – 2 internally assessed, 2 externally assessed.

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment. This course would hugely benefit anybody wanting to enter acting/creative industries.

Web Link: https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/performing-arts-2016.html

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact:
Miss Finbow

Physical Education

The WJEC Eduqas A level in Physical Education equips learners with a depth and breadth of knowledge, understanding and skills relating to scientific, socio-cultural and practical aspects of physical education. Learners are required to:

Develop theoretical knowledge and understanding of the factors that underpin physical activity and sport and use this knowledge to improve performance.

Understand how physiological and psychological states affect performance

Understand the key socio-cultural factors that influence people's involvement in physical activity and sport

Understand the role of technology in physical activity and sport

Refine their ability to perform effectively in physical activity and sport by developing skills and techniques and selecting and using tactics, strategies and/or compositional ideas

Develop their ability to analyse and evaluate to improve performance
Understand the contribution which physical activity makes to health and fitness

Improve as effective and independent learners and as critical and reflective thinkers with curious and enquiring minds.

This specification has been designed to allow learners to develop an appreciation of physical education in a wide range of contexts. The specification is designed to integrate theory and practice with an emphasis on the application of theoretical knowledge. Learners will develop an understanding of how the various theoretical concepts impact on their own performance, through the integration of theory and practice.

The specification focuses on five key knowledge areas:

1. Exercise physiology, training and performance
2. Movement analysis, technology and biomechanics
3. Sport psychology
4. Skill acquisition
5. Sport and society

Qualification:
WJEC Eduqas GCE A-Level in Physical Education.

Assessment:
Component 1: Exploring concepts in physical education. 2-hour exam. 35% of qualification
Component 2: Evaluating physical education. 2-hour exam. 35% of qualification.
Component 3: Improving personal performance in physical education. Practical performance in one sport as a player of coach. 30% of qualification.

Progression route: University to study sport and exercise science, physiotherapy, human biology. Apprentice in any sport-based sector.

Website link: https://www.eduqas.co.uk/eduqas-a-level-physical-education.

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact
Miss Muttock.

Physics

Physicists explore the fundamental nature of almost everything we know of. They probe the furthest reaches of the earth to study the smallest pieces of matter. Physics like all sciences, is a practical subject. Throughout the course you will carry out practical activities to support and develop your understanding of the theory.

You will study topics including; Measurements and their errors, Particles and Radiation, Waves, Mechanics and Energy, Electricity, Further Mechanics and Thermal Physics, Fields and Nuclear physics.

Physics is a highly respected A-Level, it demonstrates to future employers that you have analytical and mathematical skills and the ability to apply them to real life situations. A good grade in A-Level physics could lead to careers in Engineering, Medicine, Astronomy, Electronics and many more.

Qualification:
AQA A Level Physics

Assessment: 3 written examinations at the end of year 13. Assessment of practical skills throughout the course.

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment in maths, engineering or the sciences.

Web Link: https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/as-and-a-level/physics-7407-7408

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact:
Mrs Wetton

Politics

This course will give you valuable insights into the world of political ideas, processes and key institutions. There can be no better time to study Politics due to the rapidity of change in the world. The loss of confidence in governments in the West and the rise of populist political movements, the breakdown of governments in the Middle East, and Brexit, are all events which point to a crisis in domestic and international politics, and have and will continue to touch our lives. A successful student of Politics will leave the course with a developing knowledge of both domestic and international Issues, and will have the skills necessary to make effective contributions to future political debates.

There are three broad areas of study:

- The government and politics of the UK
- The government and politics of the USA
- Political ideas

The course asks you to identify parallels, connections, similarities and differences between aspects of politics. This will ensure that you develop a critical awareness of the changing nature of politics and the relationships between political ideas, political institutions and political processes. The political ideas to be studied have relevance to both of the systems of government and politics in both the UK and the USA. The study of political ideas is an integral part of the course, teaching you to analyse, interpret and evaluate political information to form rounded arguments and make mature judgements about all aspects of political life.

Qualification:
Edexcel Politics A Level

Assessment:
There are three equally weighted exams. These are two hours long.

Paper 1: UK Politics / Core Political Ideas
Paper 2: UK Government / Non-core Political Ideas
Paper 3: Comparative Politics - USA study

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment in a range of areas including Politics, History, Social Sciences and Law.

Web Link: https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/A%20Level/Politics/2017/Specification%20and%20sample%20assessments/A-level-Politics-Specification.pdf

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact: Mrs Betts

Psychology

Psychology is the study of the human mind and behaviour. It attempts to answer the fundamental question, "Why do people behave the way they do?" Psychologists approach this in different ways, they might take a cognitive, biological, behavioural or social approach. This course introduces a selection of major psychological theories and research. Contrasting theories will be critically discussed, analysed and evaluated, giving an insight into human behaviour and providing a range of perspectives, experiments and case studies through which it can be considered.

The course content is below -

1. Paper 1: Introductory Topics - Social Influence; Memory; Attachment; Psychopathology
2. Paper 2: Psychology in Context - Approaches in Psychology; Biopsychology; Research Methods
3. Paper 3: Issue in Psychology - Gender; Schizophrenia; Forensic Psychology

Qualification:
GCE A Level, AQA, 7181/7182

Assessment: 100% External Examinations.

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment in range of areas including psychology, the social sciences and law.

Web Link: http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/psychology/as-and-a-level/psychology-7181-7182

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact: Mr Smith

Sociology

Sociology is the study of society. In particular it is the study of those institutions and social groups which influence our behaviour, such as family, class and the mass media. Sociologists look at how these institutions shape our individual beliefs and values. As members of society, you come to the course with attitudes and values, having taken part in social interaction with friends, family and strangers. This means you already have an insight into the subject!

In Sociology, you will gain valuable understanding of how and why different social groups act in different situations. You will also learn about different sociological approaches and how this influences sociological methodology. Besides acquiring a deep level of knowledge, you will develop and improve your essay writing technique along with evaluative, analytical and research skills. These are valuable transferable skills and will prepare you for a range of careers.

The course content is below -
1. Paper 1: Education with Theory and Methods
2. Paper 2: Family and households; The media
3. Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

Qualification:
GCE A Level, AQA

Assessment: 100% External Examinations. A level (Paper 1, 2 and 3 at the end of Year 13)

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment in range of areas including the social sciences, criminology and law.

Web Link: http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/as-and-a-level/sociology-7191-7192

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact:
Miss Lavender

Spanish

A Level Spanish: The A Level course focuses on developing oral fluency, listening, reading and writing skills, plus translation tasks; all of which are vital tools for further study. You will develop and enhance your communication skills and your ability to be an independent learner.

- To develop an interest and enthusiasm for Spanish language learning
- To communicate confidently, clearly and effectively in Spanish for a range of purposes
- To develop awareness and understanding of the contemporary society, cultural background and Heritage of countries or communities where Spanish is spoken

Year 12	Year 13
Aspects of Hispanic Society: Modern and traditional values Cyberspace Equal rights	**Multiculturalism in the Hispanic World:** Immigration Racism Integration
Artistic culture in the Hispanic World: Modern day Idols Spanish Regional Identity Cultural Heritage or Cultural Landscape	**Aspects of Political life in the Hispanic World:** Today's youth, tomorrow's citizens (politics, unemployment and an ideal society) Monarchies and Dictatorships Popular movements
The study of a Spanish film.	**The study of a Spanish book.**
Grammar and Translation Skills	**Grammar and Translation Skills**
Individual Research Project: The AS exam students will start working on an individual research project which will be assessed at A2	**Individual Research Project:** After the AS exam students will start working on an individual research project which will be assessed at A2

Year 12: Students will develop their grammatical knowledge from GCSE and will be encouraged to think and talk in greater depth about aspects of the society in the wider Hispanic speaking world. Students will be expected to keep up to date with current affairs relating to their chosen language in order to broaden their understanding and appreciation of the course. Students are encouraged to visit a country where their target language is spoken during Year 12 either on a work experience or on a language study placement if and when possible.
Year 13: The second year of the course builds on the skills acquired in Year 12. Topics increase in breadth and depth, to include such areas as social issues (immigration, racism and integration). The focus is very much on the Hispanic world and its context in society. Many themes are current and topical, including politics of today's youth, unemployment as well as the historical study of the politics, such as its monarchies, dictatorships etc. Students prepare for the challenge of writing at greater length, e.g. articles and essays.

Qualification:
A Level, AQA

Assessment: 70% Written Exam, 30% Speaking Exam

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment in any sector.

Web Link: https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/as-and-a-level/spanish-7692

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact:
Miss Szuszman

Sports Studies has undergone comprehensive development in recent years to improve links to higher education and careers in the sports and active leisure industry. The new and improved courses have specifically been designed to meet the needs of the ever-changing environment within this sector.

We are excited to offer two pathways at **MCA[6]**; the National Extended Certification (single award) and the National Diploma (double award). The single award comprises Anatomy and Physiology, Fitness Training and Programming, Professional Development of the Sports Industry and Sports Leadership. In addition to these units, students embarking on the double award also study Coaching for Performance, Skill Acquisition in Sports, Business in the Sport and Leisure Industry, Sports Psychology and Sports Injury Management.

The units have been designed by specialists in the field with the aim of challenging the physical and mental capabilities of each student. Successful completion of the course will enable learners to progress to higher education to study a range of disciplines, such as sports coaching, sports science and physiotherapy. Other potential routes post-18 include apprenticeships and sports-specific scholarships.

Qualification:
Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Sport
Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Sport

Assessment:
Single:
4 units of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external. Mandatory content (83%). External assessment (67%). 2 units contain written exams/set tasks and there are 2 coursework units.

Double:
9 units of which 6 are mandatory and 3 are external. Mandatory content (75%). External assessment (45%). 3 units contain written exams/set tasks and there are 6 coursework units.

Progression Route: University, apprenticeship or employment in sport, exercise or fitness.

Web Link: http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/sport-2016.html

For more information about this course or entry requirements please contact:
Miss Muttock

Student Support

Guidance is provided to **MCA[6]** students through our pastoral and academic programmes which work alongside each other to support our students throughout their Sixth Form journey. Parents/Carer and students are provided with access to Go4Schools to view academic and pastoral progress.

Students also have access to the academy's Learning Support team, careers advisor, NEACO Higher Education Champion, the school nursing team and the Academy's safeguarding team. As a team we work together supporting individuals on their pathway through Sixth Form.

Personal Tutor

Year 12 and Year 13 students have a Personal Tutor who reviews their academic achievements, sets target to support progression and discuss wider, relevant issues. Students have twice weekly morning meetings and additional individual/small group meeting with their Personal Tutor. Students will cover a wide range of topics including the university and apprenticeship application process, pastoral issues and preparation for life after sixth form.

The pastoral programme includes fortnightly SKL lessons, assemblies, presentations and workshops from visitors, visits and bespoke sessions to ensure strong personal development.